

# Alzar School Annual Report



Fiscal Year Ending June 2013

The mission of the Alzar School is to educate and facilitate the leadership development of high school students.



# From the Co-Heads of School

This has been a tremendous year for the school. Since 2004 we'd dreamed of opening a school and in the 2012-2013 school year we turned those big ideas into actions. With the help of a dedicated and talented staff and group of teachers we developed and implemented a curriculum that stretched and challenged each student to grow. We offered interdisciplinary classes and worked hard to demonstrate the implementation of these skills into real world applications.

Students grew outside of the traditional classroom as well as they were challenged to learn more about themselves as they led their peers. Students developed self confidence, resiliency, and grit by stepping outside their comfort zone in outdoor adventure activities, foreign travel, and social situations. This resulted in a group of young people who are tackling leadership projects across the US in areas they are passionate about. From gardens in LA to cross country ski classes in Cascade, ID Alzar School alumni are demonstrating that they are motivated, educated group of young poel with the skills and tools to make a difference in the lives of others.

All of this happened while undertaking a \$3.5 million construction project yielding a beautiful 102 acre campus, 3 yurts, a bath house, barn, four staff housing apartments, and a state of the art 4,800 sq. ft Confluence Building that holds the classrooms, dining hall, and office space. The students worked to prevent erosion along the river and tackled various other service projects. The school owns a healthy fleet of kayaks in Chile and has developed relationships and infrastructure to run sustainable programs that connect students to the people and ideas they encounter during their time abroad for years to come.



# Year in Review

## Programming

In 2012-2013, the Alzar School completed its first two semesters, after six years of offering multi-week expeditions. In doing so, the school increased its "user days" from a high of ~700 in 2010-2011, to more than 2700.

These programs included 12 weeks operating internationally (previously the school completed 3 weeks in a given year). It also included the successful delivery of two 72-hour Wilderness First Responder courses and two 24-hour Swiftwater Rescue courses.

Additionally, the school added 5-day homestay experiences for students for the first time, added permits for the Owyhee River and the Trinity Alps



## **Teaching Fellowship**

The school started its Teaching Fellowship program, a significant expansion upon previous internship opportunities for young professionals. The school hosted four fellows in 2012-2013, who each designed and implemented lessons in traditional classrooms (some even planning/teaching a full unit), earned valuable outdoor certifications, and had the opportunity to help the school develop multiple systems for the new semester format.

## **Admissions**

For the 21 students represented in 2012-2013, there were 43 applications (24 completed and 19 incomplete). These applications represented 28 different schools from around the country.

Two students were accepted who could not attend. One cited financial constraints, while the other elected to remain at her traditional boarding school. Another student completed an application but withdrew herself from consideration.

As of June 30, 2013, for the 2013-2014 year, there have been 44 applications (17 accepted students, 27 incomplete, 4 other accepted candidates who chose not to enroll citing financial constraints or choosing to attend another semester school program).

## **Financial Aid & Scholarships**

For the 2012-2013 school year, \$225,250 was awarded in financial aid, awarded as both need- and merit-based scholarships. The average award size was \$14,078.

The experiences I had at the Alzar School gave me the skills and confidence to take on life, instead of sitting around watching it go by.



**Student quote & Photo**

# Donors

Brian Wallingford

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Foundation

Terri & Vik Garabedian

Brianna Gask-Wilson

United Way

Social Good Network

Conserve School

Falling Creek

Boise State University

American Canoe Association

Ben & Libby Hill

Anonymous





# Financial Report

# Grand Opening

Celebrating the completion of ten structures, infrastructure along 102 acres of, and everyone who made it happen.

Buildings include:

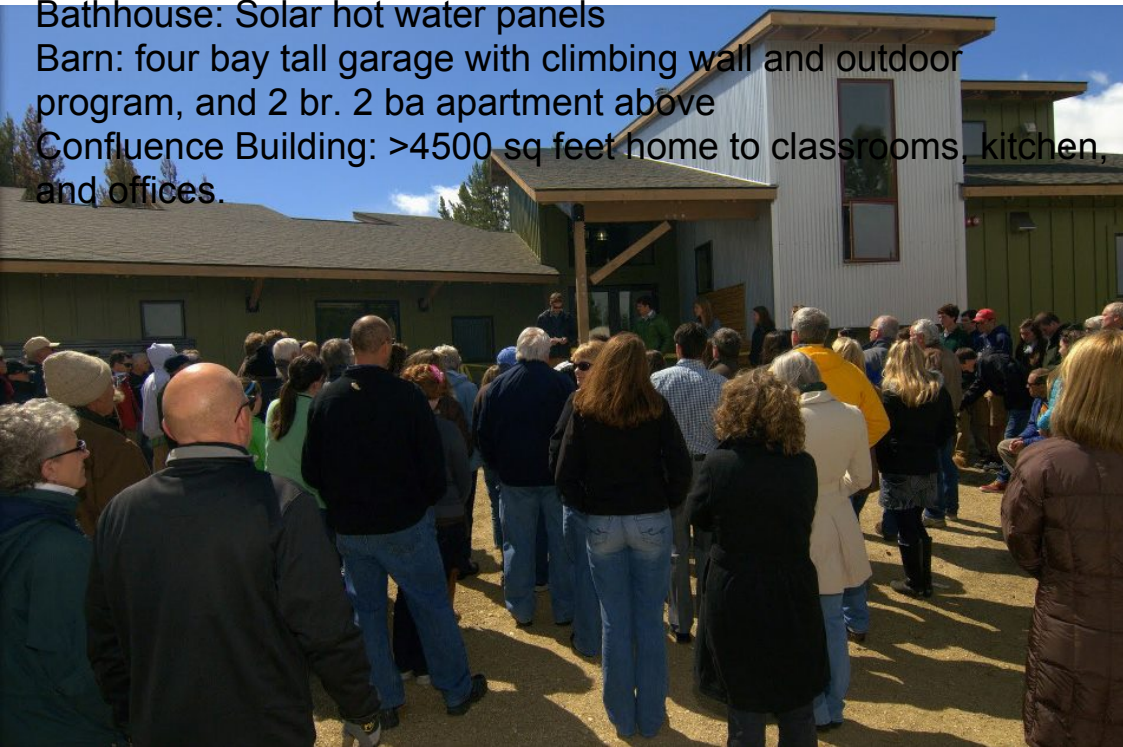
Staff Housing: 4 1br. 1 ba apartments

3 yurts: Student and Intern housing

Bathhouse: Solar hot water panels

Barn: four bay tall garage with climbing wall and outdoor program, and 2 br. 2 ba apartment above

Confluence Building: >4500 sq feet home to classrooms, kitchen, and offices.



# Parent and Student Feedback

# Board of Directors

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position on Board</b>	<b>Occupation / Employer</b>	<b>Residence</b>
Kim Tanabe	President	Physician, St. Luke's	Garden Valley, ID
Katie Basham	Vice President	Doctoral Candidate, University of Utah	Salt Lake City, UT
Cailin O'Brien-Feeney	Treasurer	Policy Director, Winter Wildlands Alliance	Boise, ID
Turin Dickman	Secretary	Biological researcher, Los Alamos Laboratory	Albuquerque, NM
Katie Hawkins	Advisory Committee Liaison	Physicians Assistant, St. Luke's	Boise, ID
Kristin Bierle	Ex-officio member	Executive Director, Alzar School	Cascade, ID
Sean Bierle	Ex-officio member	Head Teacher, Alzar School	Cascade, ID



Alzar School- [address](#), [web](#)